

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**FACULTY PRESENTATION AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY:  
“THE STATE OF PERFORMING ARTS AT IOWA STATE UNIVERISTY”**

**Action Requested:** Receive the presentation.

**Executive Summary:** Jane Cox, Brad Dell, Michael Golemo, Donald Simonson, and Jonathan Sturm will provide a presentation on the varied strengths, as well as the local and global impact, of Iowa State University’s music and theatre programs. The presentation will include live performances by students and faculty.

Jane Cox, professor and stage director for Iowa State University Theatre, has been on the ISU faculty for more than 20 years. The ISU alumna has been involved with over 250 productions as an actress, designer, or director, and her one-woman shows have been performed in more than 20 states, the Kennedy Center, and the Smithsonian. Cox’s latest project is “Heroes Among Us”, a book dealing with the lives of Iowa men and women in World War II; the script from these interviews opened in 2001. She teaches a wide variety of theatre classes to university students, children, and seniors. Cox has been awarded The Faculty Citation, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Excellence in Artistic Creativity Award, and a Commendation from Governor Terry E. Branstad.



Brad Dell, associate professor of Theatre, teaches classes in directing, acting, musical theatre, and script analysis. He has directed more than 20 plays, musicals, and operas at ISU since 2005, and has earned numerous awards from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. Dell is the artistic director and a company member of Repertory Theater of Iowa, and artistic advisor and frequent director for StageWest Theatre Company in Des Moines. Recent directing highlights include *Les Misérables*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Into the Woods*, *Next to Normal*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Rent*, *Candide*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *The History Boys*. Dell holds a bachelor’s degree in theatre from Westminster College and an MFA from Western Illinois University.



Michael Golemo is professor and chair of ISU's Department of Music and Theatre, and director of bands. In addition to his administrative duties, he conducts the Wind Ensemble, ISU's top concert band. Golemo received bachelor's and master's degrees from Northwestern University, and a Ph.D. in wind conducting from Michigan State University. An active guest conductor and adjudicator, he also directs the Ames Municipal Band, serves as president of the Iowa Bandmasters Association, and is an elected member of the American Bandmasters Association. With over 300 instrumental arrangements, transcriptions and compositions to his credit, Golemo's works have been performed by Wynton Marsalis, Anita Baker, Simon Estes, William Warfield, and the Des Moines Symphony, among others. Golemo has led six performing tours with the ISU Wind Ensemble to Europe five times.



Donald Simonson chairs the Department of Music and Theatre's Voice Division and teaches voice, voice pedagogy, vocal literature, and conducts musical theater, and maintains an active research laboratory specializing in vocal acoustics. Simonson graduated from Northwestern University and undertook advanced study at the Hochschule für Musik und Darstellende Kunst (Academy of Music) in Vienna, Austria. He regularly performs leading roles and appears as a soloist with opera companies, symphony orchestras and chamber ensembles throughout Europe, America, Australia and the Far East. Recently, Simonson recently completed a two-year term as president of the National Association of Teachers of Singing and currently coordinates its Summer Intern Program.



Jonathan Sturm, professor of music history and president of ISU's Faculty Senate, serves as concertmaster of the Des Moines Symphony, and violist with the internationally acclaimed Ames Piano Quartet (recently renamed the Amara Piano Quartet). With the Ames Piano Quartet, he has recorded eight internationally released compact discs on the Dorian/Sono Luminus, and Albany labels, has been heard on the *St. Paul Sunday*, and *Performance Today* radio programs, and has performed annually on national concert series. At ISU, Sturm was awarded the 2009 Excellence in Teaching Award in the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences.

